

Appl.No.: 10/032,859
Amendment dated September 20, 2004
Response to Office Action mailed May 19, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7 are pending in the application; reexamination and reconsideration are hereby requested.

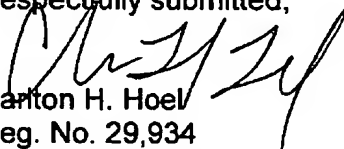
Claims 1-5 were rejected as unpatentable over Wang; the Examiner pointed to Wang generally for MAP decoding and asserted cascade architecture is known in MAP decoding.

Applicants reply that Wang appears no more relevant than the admitted prior art of application Figs.2d-2e, and there is no suggestion of cascade MAP decoding. Further, table A (Wang column 10) counts computations, not numbers of ACS units as required by claim 4.

Claims 6-7 were rejected as unpatentable over Yagyu in view of Wang; the Examiner pointed to Yagyu for iterative turbo decoding and used Wang as before.

Applicants repeat their foregoing argument that Wang (plus Yagyu) does not suggest cascade MAP decoding.

Respectfully submitted,



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